

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Confirmation No. 1388

Akihisa HONGO et al.

Docket No. 2001-0924A

Serial No. 09/891,472

Group Art Unit 1742

Filed June 27, 2001

Examiner Donald R. Valentine

METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR FORMING INTERCONNECTS, AND POLISHING LIQUID AND POLISHING METHOD

**ELECTION OF INVENTION** 

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Office Action of June 3, 2003, Applicants in the above-referenced U.S. patent application hereby elect group III corresponding to claims 13-24 and 40-47, drawn to an apparatus for forming interconnects.

An early and favorable action on the merits is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

Akihisa HONGO et al.

By:

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THE COMMISSIONER IS AUTHORIZED TO CHARGE ANY DEFICIENCY IN THE FEES FOR THIS PAPER TO DEPOSIT ACCOUNT NO. 23-0975